# South Carolina
## DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

**The South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) is a state cabinet agency, and by law, it is also a treatment and rehabilitative agency for the state's juveniles.**

**DJJ is responsible for providing custodial care and rehabilitation for the state's children who are incarcerated, on probation or parole, or in community placement for a criminal or status offense.**

**Our goal at DJJ is to protect the public and reclaim juveniles through prevention, community programs, education, and rehabilitative services in the least restrictive environment possible.**

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**DJJ emphasizes a Restorative, rather than a merely punitive approach to juvenile justice**

## Recent Community Restoration Projects

**Youth under DJJ care are encouraged to restore their community and their victims, to make amends for their offenses. This is the Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) model.**

# South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice

DJJ has about 1,400 employees and has help from about 3,000 volunteers each year.

DJJ operates one long-term secure facility (the Broad River Road Complex in Columbia), one Detention Center, three regional Evaluation Centers, and 43 county offices.

The average daily population of DJJ youth in all hardware and staff secure facilities is 866.

About 16,500 juveniles are referred to DJJ each year.

DJJ also operates its own school district, a Job Readiness Training Center (JRTC) and the "Store of Hope," a retail store which sells youth-made items. The agency also helps fund several regional Teen After School Centers and Job Readiness Training sites.

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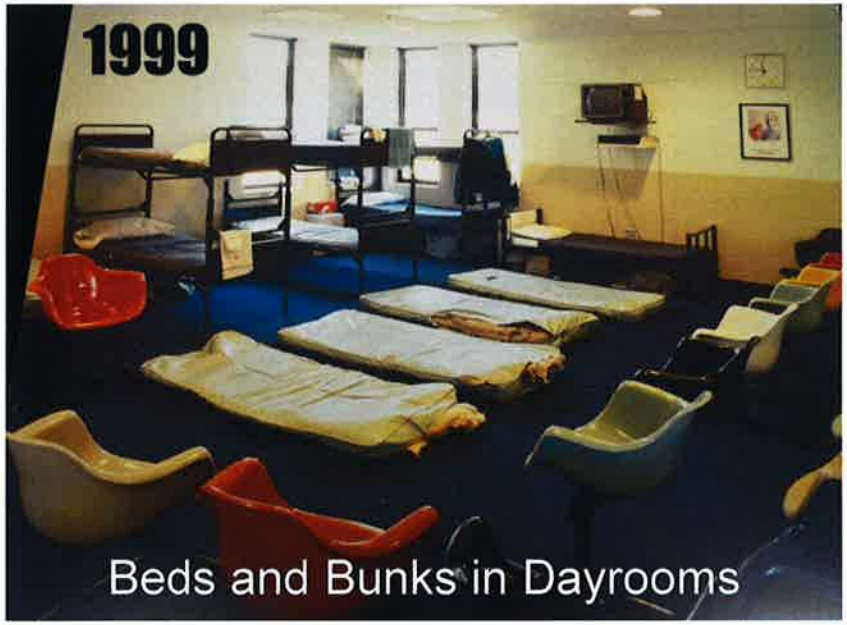
**Last year, only 47% of cases referred to solicitors ended up being heard in Family Court. And of those juveniles whose cases did go to court, 62% received dispositions of probation.**

**Only about 10% of cases referred to solicitors ultimately resulted in commitment to DJJ**

# Yesterday's DJJ

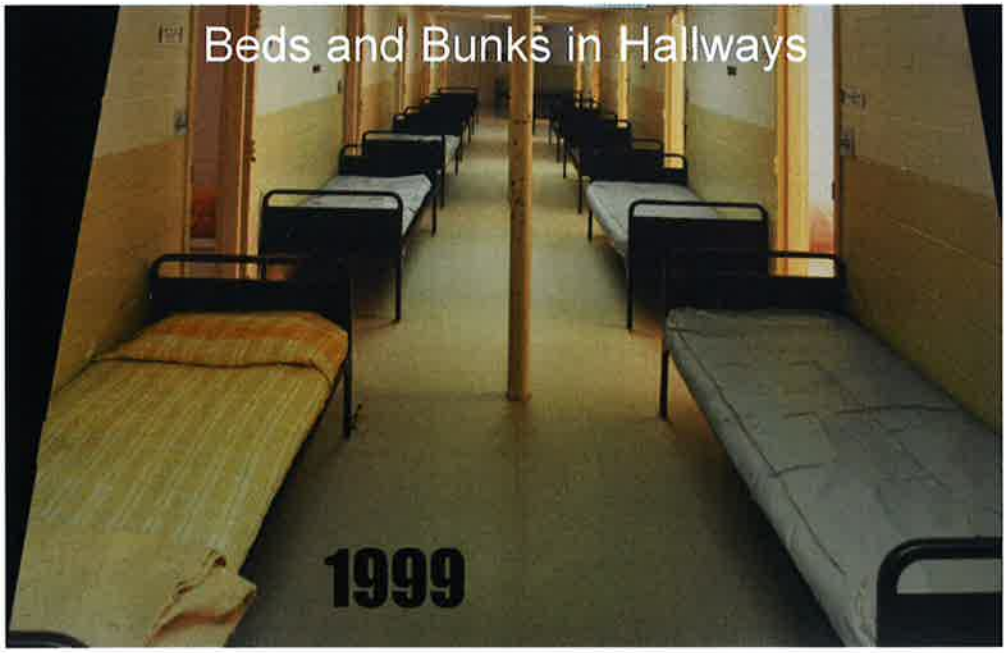



**A 1991 federal lawsuit that hung over DJJ for thirteen years**

**Massive overcrowding and decrepit dorms**

**Few alternatives for Family Court judges for non-violent and "status" offenders**

**Very limited job training options for juveniles behind the fence or in the community.**



# Today's DJJ

A **75%** decrease in average daily population at the secure BRRC facility in the last decade

Juvenile crime referrals to DJJ down **38%** in the last decade

Juvenile violent and serious crime down **64%** since its peak in 1994-1995

Numerous diversion and placement options to keep youth from coming behind the fence

A school district that has won Palmetto Gold status for 11 years, with a GED pass rate of **77%**

New job training options for youth, both for those behind the fence and for those in the community

*Change is Possible. Change is Happening. Change is Ongoing*

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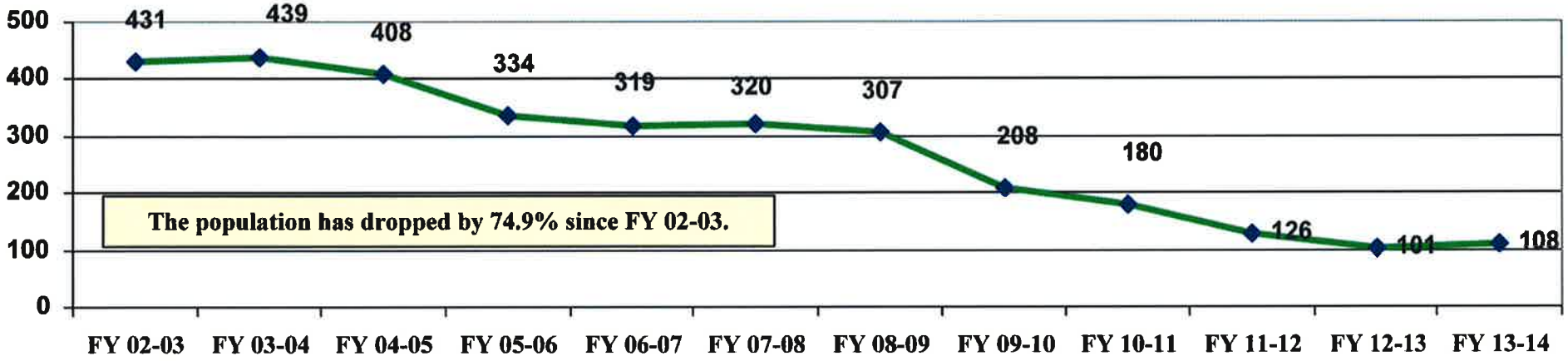
## IV. Decline of Population within DJJ Secure Long-Term Facilities



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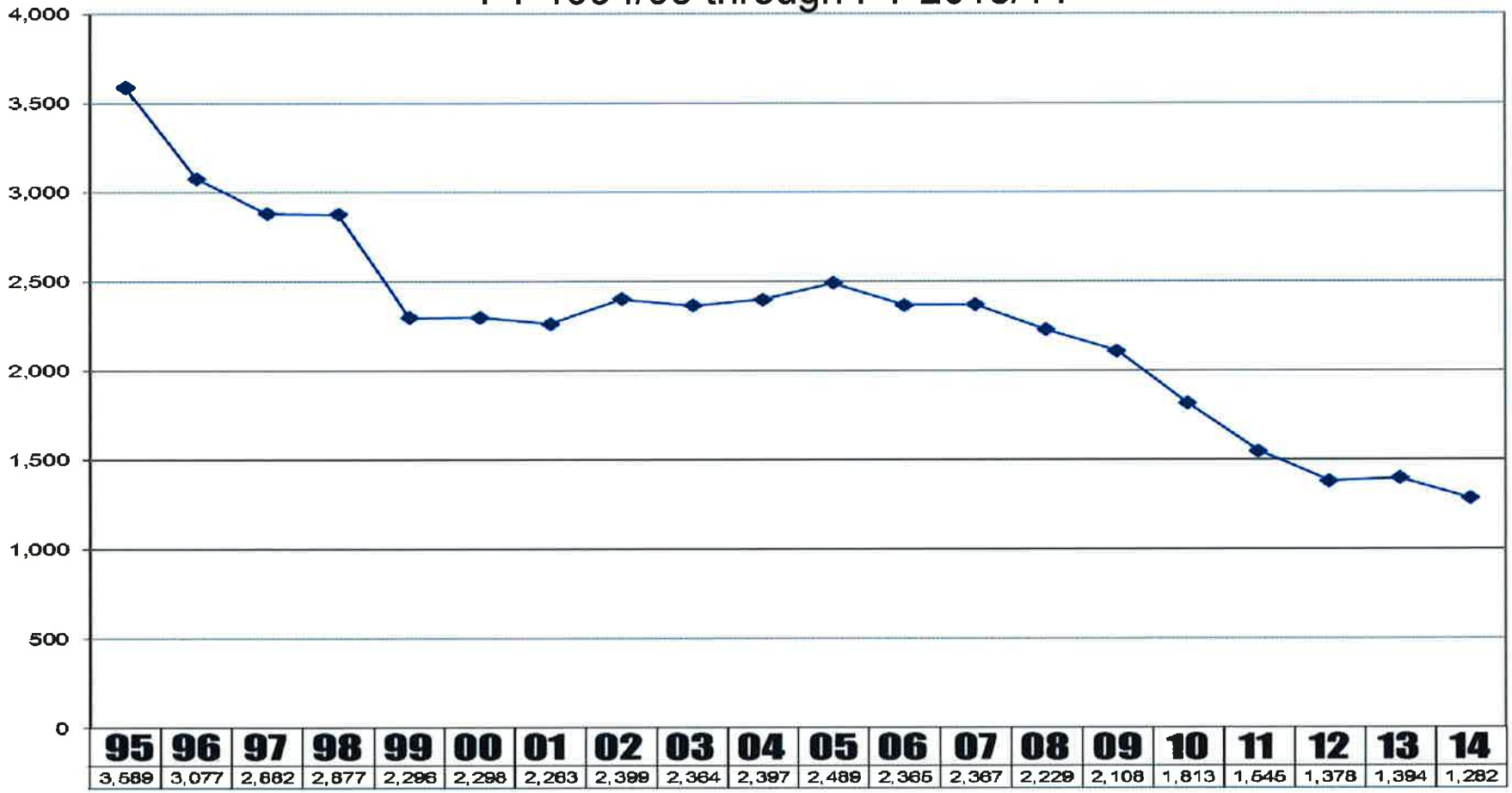
# Violent and Serious Juvenile Cases

FY 1994/95 through FY 2013/14




| 95 | 96 | 97 | 98 | 99 | 00 | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3,589 | 3,077 | 2,882 | 2,877 | 2,296 | 2,298 | 2,263 | 2,399 | 2,364 | 2,397 | 2,489 | 2,365 | 2,367 | 2,229 | 2,108 | 1,813 | 1,545 | 1,378 | 1,394 | 1,282 |

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# How We Changed

**Repositioned our facility clinicians to front-end of the system (in the communities).**

**Lowered caseloads for probation officers, and began an Intensive Supervision Officer (ISO) program to ensure that parole officers had a caseload with a limit of 20 supervised juveniles.**

**Improved family services and counseling at the county level.**

**Created extensive job training, anti-gang, and afterschool programs both behind the fence and in the community.**

**Created and expanded diversion and alternative placement programs, such as Juvenile Arbitration, to give Family Court judges more options with young offenders who may not belong in secure facilities.**

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# How We Changed

**And we had help from some friends as well....**

Virginia College
Mechanical Contractors Association of South Carolina
Representing the Electrical, HVAC & Plumbing Industry
CHILDREN'S LAW CENTER
To improve the administration of justice in child maltreatment and juvenile justice cases
TD Bank
America's Most Convenient Bank
SC ECONOMICS
Helping K-12 Teachers Teach Economics
The Sustainability Institute
BB&T
CJMW ARCHITECTURE
MEBA
Midlands Education & Business Alliance
Home Works
BUILDING CHARACTER | EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES
Midlands Technical College
COLUMBIA ELECTRICAL COUNCIL · EST. 2002 ·
SOUTH CAROLINA ARMY & AIR NATIONAL GUARD
FRIENDS of JUVENILE JUSTICE
Carrier
turn to the experts
WELLS FARGO
Cox
MUNGO HOMES
South Carolina
SCDMV
MEETZE PLUMBING CO., INC.
EST. 1981
Bank of America
Habitat for Humanity®
White Crane COMPANY, INC.
WIA
Workforce Investment Act
Arrowak M.F.G & Distributing
Carolina House Movers
BOEING
South Carolina Bankers Association
Bonitz™
The BRIDGE TECH
SONOCO RECYCLING
SUBWAY eat fresh.
NAVY
Job Corps
BI-LO
Midlands Community Development Corporation
U.S. ARMY
BENEDICT COLLEGE
U.S. AIR FORCE
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
piggly wiggly
MARINES THE FEW. THE PROUD.
CVS pharmacy
FOOD LION
ACE Hardware
Junior Achievement®

# JRTC

## Job Readiness Training Center

*Connecting Youth with Their Future.*

**The Job Readiness Training Center, (JRTC).** The JRTC is a multi-Purpose Training Facility. JRTC is equipped with video conferencing, smart-board technology, a computer lab, training rooms and culinary arts studio designed to enhance the student's learning experience.

The Mission of the JRTC is to ***Equip, Expose and Assist*** young students throughout the State of South Carolina with Job Readiness Training and Skills.

**Equip** – them with the hard and soft skills needed to get jobs.

**Expose**- them to the difference occupations, professions, higher education and other learning opportunities.

**Assist** – them with maintaining employment and continued education.

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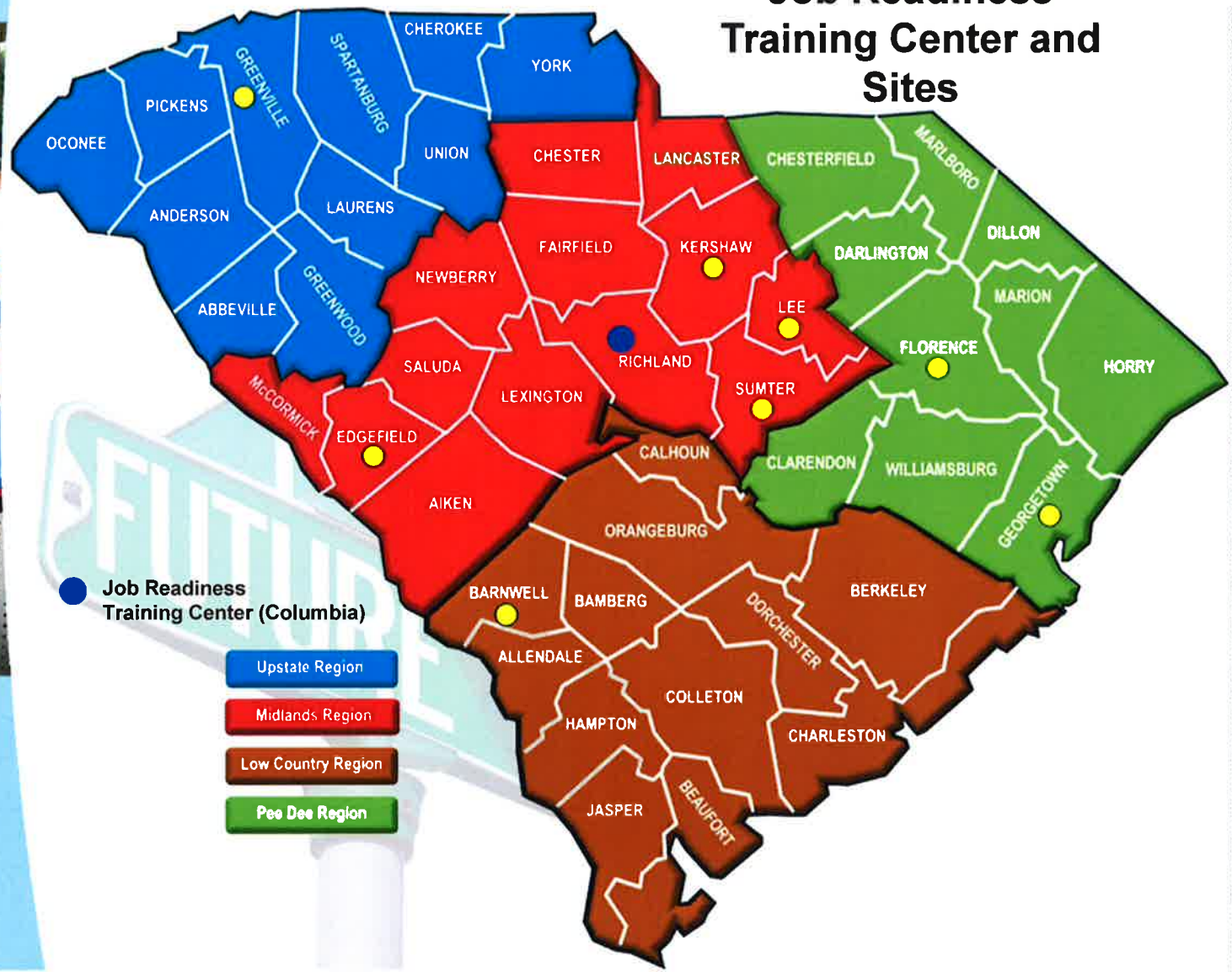
# Job Readiness Training Center and Sites



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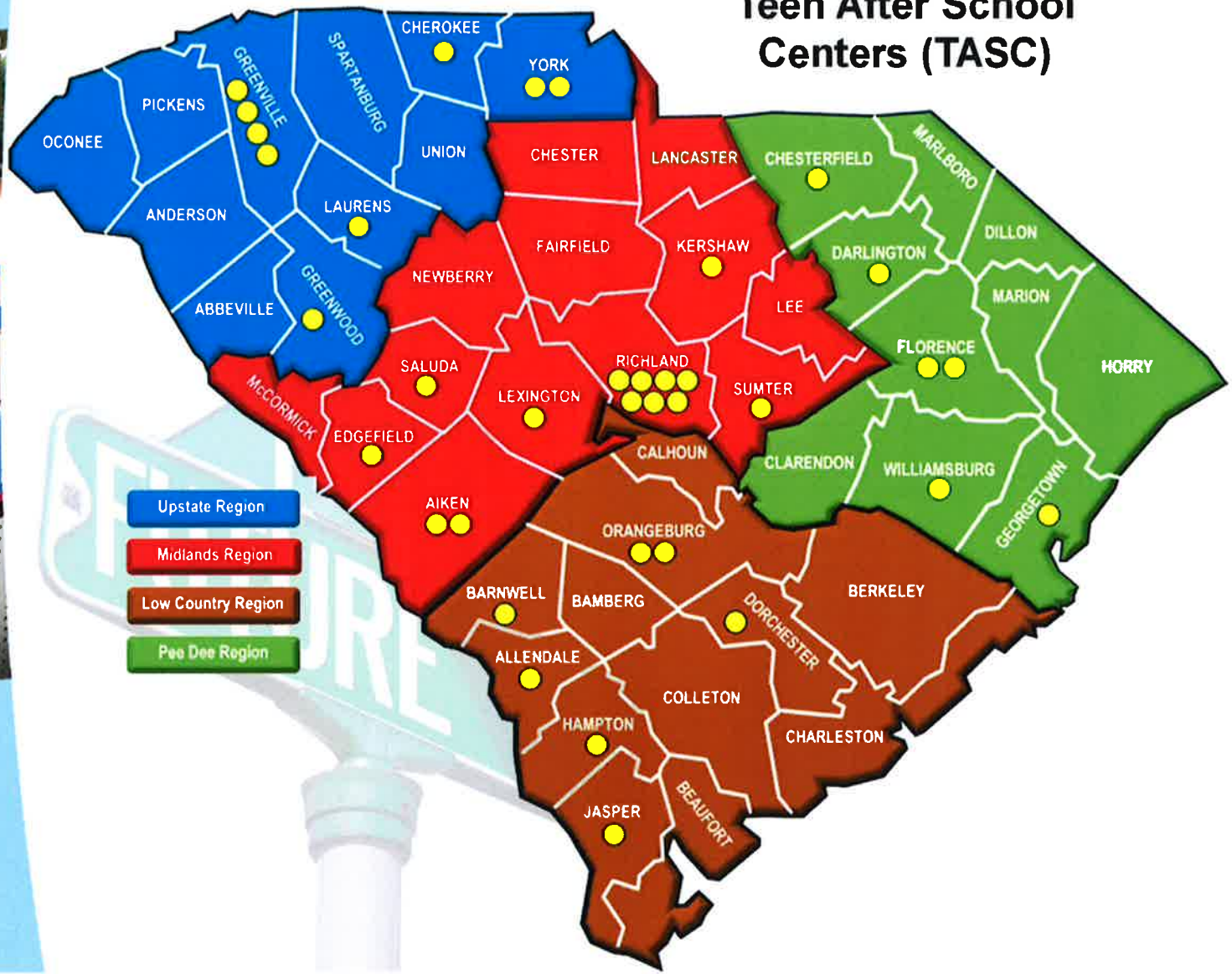
## Teen After School Centers (TASC)



Store of Hope
JRTC
Job Readiness Training Center
Connecting Youth with Their Future
G.R.E.A.T.
Gang Resistance Education And Training
South Carolina
Stop Youth Violence
Q & A
DJJ
South Carolina
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